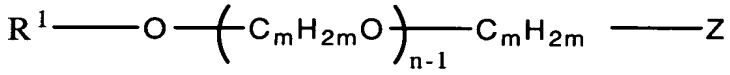
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the International application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) The use of block copolymers which were prepared by polymerization of a poly(alkylene oxide) compound (A) with at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer compound (B), as dispersants and/or superplasticizers for aqueous suspensions of solids, the suspension of solids containing hydraulic binders based on cement, lime, gypsum and anhydrite.

2. (Currently Amended) The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the block copolymenrs were prepared by reacting a poly(alkylene oxide) compound (A) of the general formula (I)



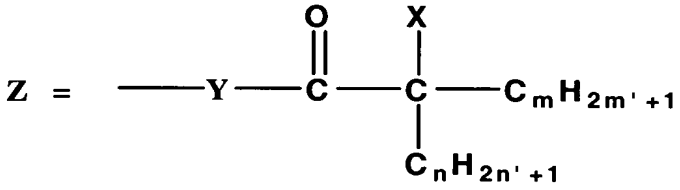
(I)

in which

R^1 = hydrogen, a C_1– C_{20}-alkyl radical, a cycloaliphatic C_5– C_{12}-cycloalkyl radical, an optionally substituted C_6– C_{14}-aryl radical;

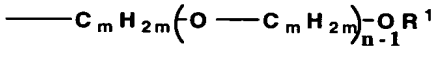
m = 2 to 4;

n = 1 to 250;



(III)

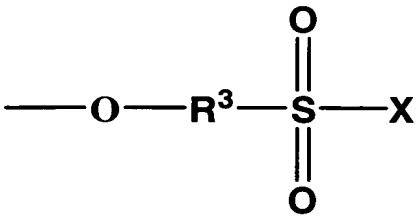
where Y = O or NR^2

R^2 = H, a C_1-C_{12}-alkyl radical, a C_6-C_{14}-aryl radical, or 

X = Cl [[,]] or Br

m′ = 1 to 4

n′ = 0 to 2,

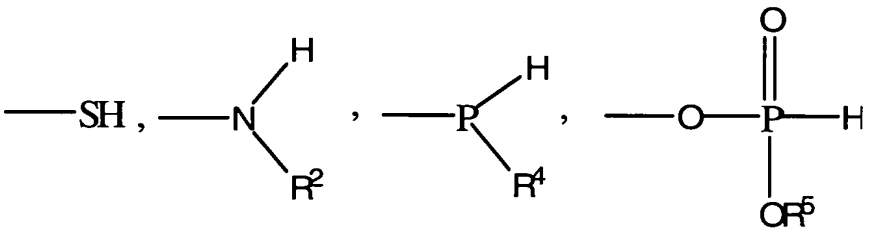


(IV)

where

R^3 = an optionally substituted C_6– C_{14}-arylene radical

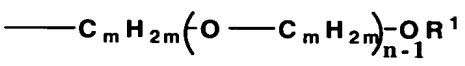
X = Cl, Br



(V)

in which

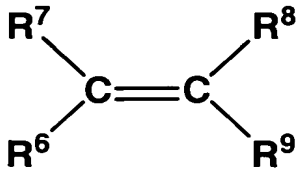
R^4 is H, a C_1-C_{12} alkyl radical, a C_5– C_8-cycloalkyl radical, a C_6– C_{14}-aryl radical, optionally substituted by hydroxyl, carboxyl or sulfo groups, or



and R^5 is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_6– C_{14}-aryl, or

and R^1, R^2, m and n have the abovementioned meaning,

with an ethylenically unsaturated monomer compound (B) capable of free radical polymerization and of the general formula (II)



(II)

in which

R^6 and R^7 may be H, CH_3, COOH or salts thereof, $COOR^{10}$, $CONR^{10}R^{10}$

R^6 and R^9 together may be O-CO-O

R^8 may be H, CH_3 or $-CH_2-COOR^{10}$

R^9 may be $COOR^{10}$, an optionally substituted C_6-C_{14}-aryl radical or OR^{11}

R^{10} may be H, C_1-C_{12}-alkyl, C_1-C_{12}-hydroxyalkyl,

R^{11} may be acetyl, and

R^1, m and n have the abovementioned meaning.

3. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction of the poly(alkylene oxide) compound (A) with the monomer component (B) was carried out in the form of a free radical polymerization.

4. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the reaction was effected in the form of an "atom transfer radical polymerization" (ATRP).

5. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the aryl radicals for R^1 are also substituted by hydroxyl, carboxyl and sulfo groups.

6. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein in formula (I), m is 2 or 3 and n is 5 to 250.

7. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein that R^2 is hydrogen or C_1-C_2 -alkyl.

8. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein m' is 1 and n' is 0 or 1.

9. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the arylene radical R^3 also has halo, hydroxyl, C_1-C_{12}-alkoxy, C_1-C_{12}- dialkylamino or carboxyl groups.

10. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein R^6 and R^7 are H, R^6 and R^9 together are O-CO-O, R^8 is H, CH_3 or CH_2COOR^{10} and R^9 is $COOR^{10}$, or is a phenyl radical optionally substituted by hydroxyl, carboxyl or sulfo groups.

11. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 10, wherein R^6 and R^7 are H, R^8 = H or CH_3 and R^9 = $C00R^{10}$.

12. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 11, wherein R^6 and R^7 are H, R^8 = H or CH_3 and R^9 is COOH or salts thereof or $COOR^{12}$, where R^{12} is tert-butyl or C_1-C_6-hydroxyalkyl.

13. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the reaction of the poly (alkylene oxide) compound (A) and the monomer compound (B) was carried out in the presence of a inimer compound.

14. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that the inimer compounds used are those which were prepared by esterification of hydroxy-functionalized monomers, such as, for example hydroxyethyl methacrylate (HEMA), with ATRP initiators, such as, for example, halopropionic acids.

15. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 13, wherein the inimer ~~compounds~~ compound used was obtained by sulfochlorination of styrene.

16. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction was effected in the temperature range from 20 to 110°C.

17. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the block copolymers are used in an amount of 0.01 to 5% by weight, based on the suspension of solids.

18. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 17, wherein the suspension of solids contains inorganic particles selected from the group consisting of crushed rock, silicate powder, chalk, clays, porcelain slip, talc, pigments and carbon black.

19. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 17, wherein the suspension of solids contains organic particles, such as, for example, plastics powder.